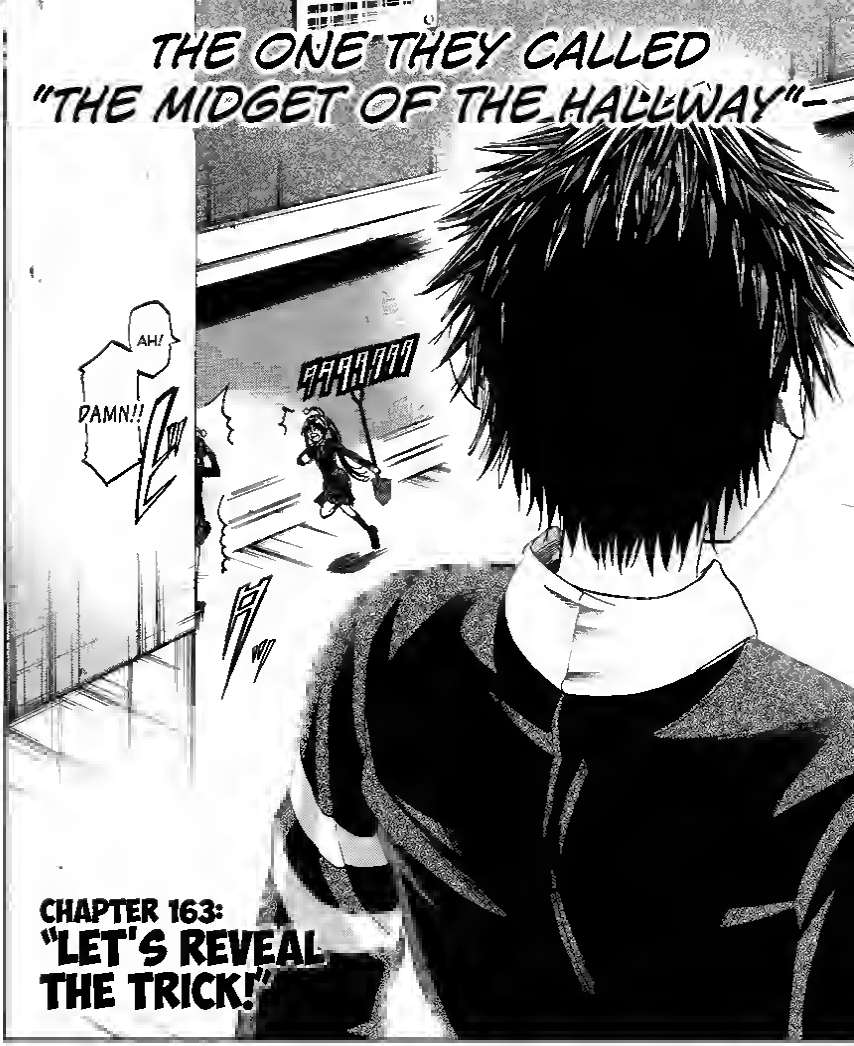
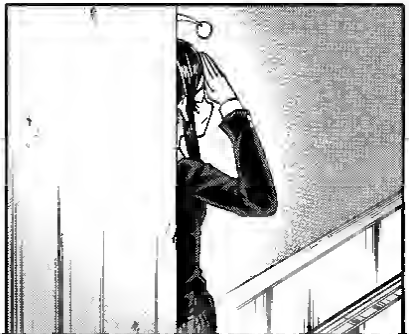
SINCE THEN,
SINCE THE FESTIVAL, IT'S BEEN A WEEK.
.....
ASAHI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THAT AWKWARD ATMOSPHERE IS GONE, AND SCHOOL IS JUST LIKE IT'S ALWAYS BEEN.
BUT I STILL DON'T FEEL LIKE EVERY-THING'S BACK TO NORMAL
.....
WHAT'S WRONG ASAHI, DID'YA PISS YO-...
WE'RE GOING ON AHEAD, ASAHI.
WITHOUT REALIZING IT, I ENDED UP GAZING AT THE SKY.

SHE WAS ALWAYS WORKING HARD ON SOMETHING.
I'M SURE THAT EVEN NOW, SOMEWHERE FAR BEYOND THE SKY, SHE'S STILL DOING HER BEST.
TO MAKE UP FOR HER FUTURE SELF THAT COULDN'T MAKE HER DREAM COME TRUE.
DID YOU ACTU-ALLY...
ERASE YOUR OWN LOVE FOR KUROMINE ASAHI...
EVENTU-ALLY,
OUR PLANET LAUNCHED AN ATTACK ON EARTH.
I FAILED.

GOD,
I HUMBLY BEG OF YOU...
MAY SHE FIND ABUNDANT HAPPINESS ON THE PATH SHE'S TAKING.
HELP HER MOVE ON FROM ME...
AND FOR HER FUTURE SELF'S SAKE...
GIVE HER A BRIGHT FUTURE.
I WILL NEVER FORGET.
THAT ONE OF THE SEVEN SCHOOL MYSTERIES WAS HERE...



CHAPTER 163: "LET'S REVEAL THE TRICK!"



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C-CLASS REP?! UH, THE ONE FROM THE FUTURE?!
HUH?! HAAH?! WHAAAAT?! WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
AIZAWA NAGISA? ALIEN? NEVER HEARD OF HER. I'M JUST A FIGURINE...
THEN WHY ARE YOU TALKING?!

UH... WHAT?!
B-BUT THAT TIME YOU WERE FIGHTING WITH THE CLASS REP AND YOU...
DISAPPEARED.
THERE'S NO POINT IN HIDING IT ANYMORE.

THE TRUTH IS I USED THE CLONING JUTSU TO SEND A COPY...
IT DISAP-PEARED BECAUSE IT WAS MADE OF STEAM....!!
SO WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT DOPPEL-GANGERS AND WHAT-NOT...?
I JUST...
WENT WITH THE FLOW....!!

I'M SORRY! I ADMIT IT WAS MY FAULT, SO PLEASE CALM DOWN!!

IT'S JUST THAT THE ME FROM THIS TIMELINE SEEMED SO INCOMPE-TENT
I-I'M TRULY SORRY!!
JUST HOW MUCH... DO YOU THINK YOU MADE EVERYONE WORRY... HAAAH?!
HAAAA-AAAAAA-AAAAAA-AAAAAA-AAAAAA-AAAH?!

S-SORRY! IF I HAD TOLD YOU, IT WOULD HAVE SHOWN ON YOUR FACE...
EVEN THE PRINCIPAL SAID TO "BURN THIS SIGHT INTO YOUR EYES"... HUH?!
ALL THAT TIME HE SPENT WORRYING
SO ALL THAT TIME I SPENT WORRYING... UH, I KINDA FEEL TOTALLY EMBARRASSED NOW!!
YOU COULD'VE AT LEAST SAID A WORD OR TWO ABOUT IT...

WHAT ARE YOU SO WORKED UP OVER, KUROMINE...
トコ
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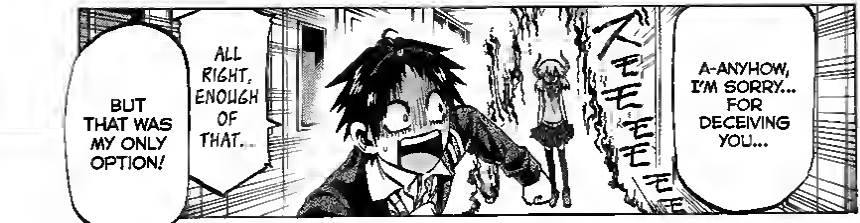
RIGHT, THE PRINCIPAL... WAS SHE IN ON IT?! DID YOU TWO SET IT ALL UP...?
PRINCI-PAL, SHE GOT YOU TOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOOOO-OOO?!

I'M REALLY SORRY!! I WANTED TO TELL YOU TWO AS SOON AS I COULD, BUT
IT GOT MORE SERIOUS THAN I THOUGHT, AND I WASN'T SURE HOW TO BREAK THE NEWS...
ALL THE MORE REASON TO TELL US SOONER!
SHE GOT TOTALLY SCAMMED AND SAID ALL THAT STUFF...
OH BOY, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD BE FOOLED.
ESPE-CIALLY NOT TWICE!!
THEN THERE'S NO REASON TO BE SO UPSET, RIGHT?!

KUROMINE ASAHI!! MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE INFIRMARY!!
MY EXTERNAL UNIT IS CHARGING THERE! WITH IT, I CAN TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT HER!!
ALL RI-!!!
WAIT, THE THING STILL RUNS OUT OF BATTERY TEN YEARS IN THE FUTURE?!



THAT KIND OF RESOLVE WAS NECESSARY
SO THAT MY ROOKIE SELF COULD FACE FORWARD
SO THAT SHE CAN BECOME A BRIDGE BETWEEN OUR WORLDS
THAT'S WHY I KEPT STRUGGLING FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS...!!

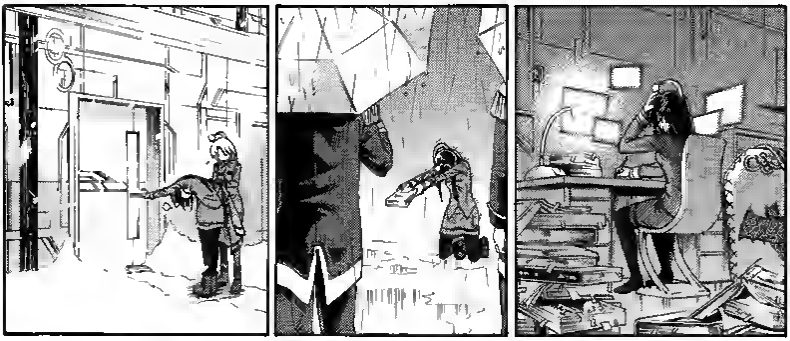
RAWS: GECKO
TL: ROTTEN PANTSU
PR: TSUNTSUN
TS: TARAGE
CL: DJIDANEZOKAWA
RD: ARTHURIL
QC: BEANSIE

PRETTYANONYMO.US

CAN I ASK ONE THING...?
.....
JUST...
WHAT HAPPENED DURING THOSE 10 YEARS...?
IF IT WAS MY FAULT...
IF...
IF MY GUESSES ARE RIGHT, I WANT YOU TO TELL ME.
DID YOUR DREAM COME TRUE...? OR...

IT WAS SUCH A PREPOS-TEROUS DREAM.
EVERY DAY WAS A BATTLE OVER WHICH OPINION WAS DOMINANT.
THE OPPOSITION CONSISTED OF HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS WHO THOUGHT ONLY OF SELF-PRESER-VATION.
THEN THERE WERE THE CHILDREN WHO KNEW NOTHING OF EARTH, AND EARTHLINGS WHO KNEW NOTHING OF ALIENS
I'M NOT SURE WHY,
BUT I COULD SEE WHAT SHE MEANT.

OH... I SEE NOW

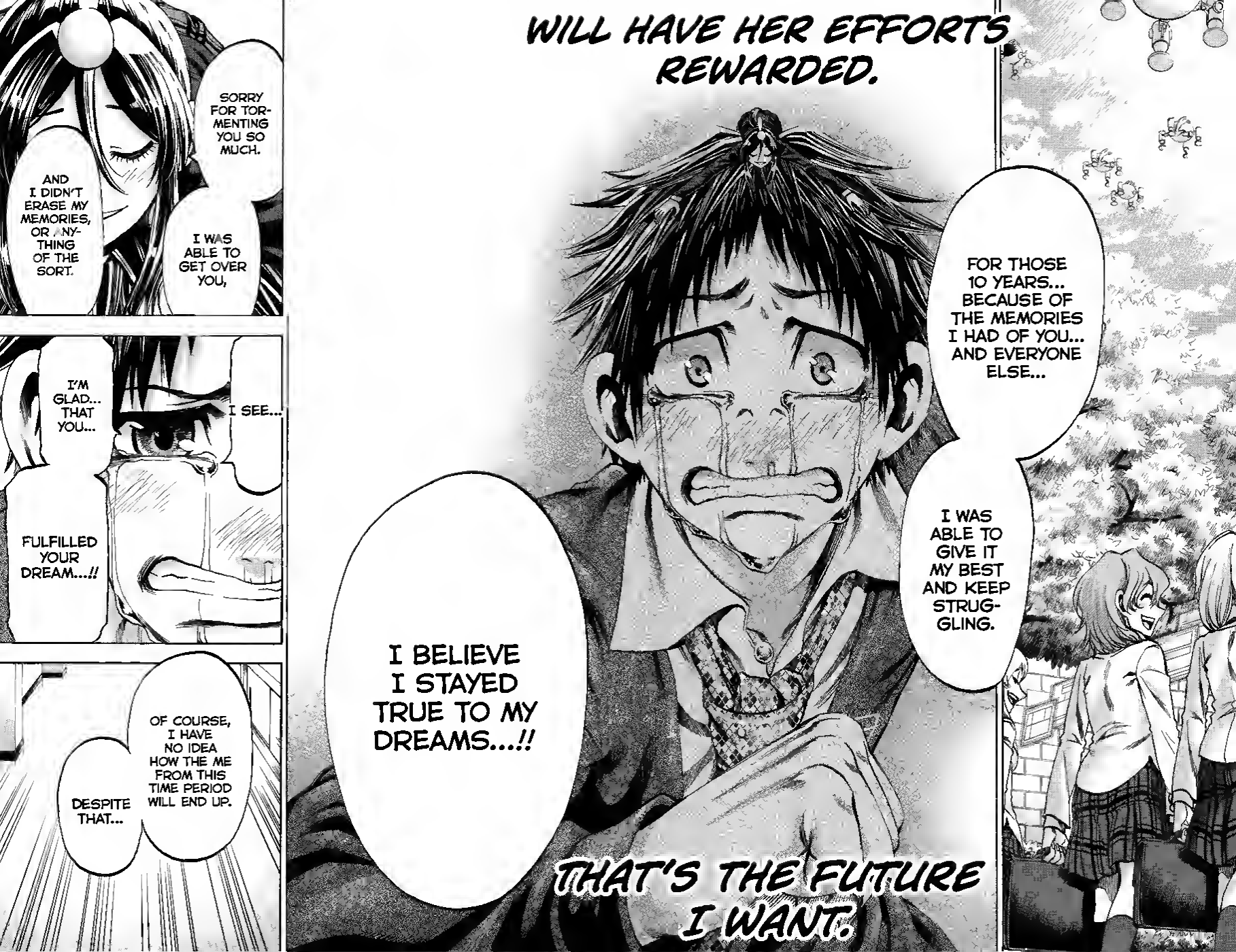


IT'S BECAUSE... I ALWAYS WISHED FOR THIS.

I CAN'T HELP BUT WISH

THAT SHE,
WHO ALWAYS WORKS SO HARD...

OF COURSE, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONVINCE ALL OF MY PEOPLE YET.
AND MANY EARTHLINGS STILL HAVEN'T ACCEPTED IT.
THERE ARE STILL A WHOLE HEAP OF ISSUES TO DEAL WITH.
BUT STILL


SORRY FOR TORMENTING YOU SO MUCH.
I WAS ABLE TO GET OVER YOU,
AND I DIDN'T ERASE MY MEMORIES, OR ANYTHING OF THE SORT.
I SEE...
I'M GLAD... THAT YOU...
FULFILLED YOUR DREAM...!!
OF COURSE, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW THE ME FROM THIS TIME PERIOD WILL END UP.
DESPITE THAT...
WILL HAVE HER EFFORTS REWARDED.
FOR THOSE 10 YEARS... BECAUSE OF THE MEMORIES I HAD OF YOU... AND EVERYONE ELSE...
I WAS ABLE TO GIVE IT MY BEST AND KEEP STRUGGLING.
I BELIEVE I STAYED TRUE TO MY DREAMS...!!
THAT'S THE FUTURE I WANT.

IF, ONE DAY, THAT ROOKIE CAN MAKE HER DREAM COME TRUE
WHEN SHE RETURNS TO THIS EARTH
COULD YOU BE A FRIEND TO HER AGAIN...?
YEAH...
YEAH...!!

BEFORE, THE FUTURE CLASS REP TOLD ME THAT SHE HAD BUSINESS WITH ME.
YEAH.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME... OKAY?
SO... HEY.
DON'T CRY. YOU'RE A MAN, AREN'T YOU?
YEAH...

THAT SHE'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
THAT I DON'T NEED TO WORRY.
SHE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM THE FUTURE JUST TO TELL ME THAT.

IT'S BEEN A WEEK SINCE THE FESTIVAL.
OH, RIGHT! WE WERE STILL BEING CHASED BY THE PRINCIPAL!!
I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO YOUR BULLSHIT,
BUT EVEN WITH THAT TOUCHING STORY, YOU WON'T FOOL ME!!

WITHOUT EVEN NOTICING, I KEPT GAZING AT THE SKY.
I STILL COULDN'T SHIFT BACK INTO NORMAL LIFE.
"I WANT TO HELP THOSE WITH SECRETS."
I DON'T WANT HER TO LEAVE ME IN HER DUST. THE ONE WHO'S STILL WORKING HARD SOMEWHERE FAR BEYOND THE ENDLESS SKY.
THAT'S MY DREAM.
HM?
RIGHT...
I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HARD TO SPOT IT FROM HERE...
SECOND LIEUTENANT, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT—?
IS IT... EARTH?

THERE WAS THIS ONE MAN WHO WOULD ALWAYS GIVE IT HIS BEST.
I WAS THINKING HE MUST STILL BE WORKING HARD ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS VAST GALAXY.
AND THAT I HAVE TO KEEP UP WITH HIM.
NOW, IT'S GOING TO GET A LOT BUSIER!
MAKE SURE YOU CAN KEEP UP!!
I WISH FOR US TO REACH
YES, MA'AM!!
THE FUTURE I SAW IN MY DREAMS.